

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on March 16, 2004, claims 1-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 27, 29-37, 39-41, 43, 44 and 48-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxwell in view of Lin; claims 18 and 42 were rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxwell in view of Line and Walsh; claims 21-23 and 45-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxwell in view of Lin and Marino; claims 26 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxwell in view of Lin and Caputo; and claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxwell in view of Lin and Shih. These rejections are addressed below.

§ 103 Rejections of Claims 1-26, 48 and 49:

The method of independent claim 1 includes reading data from a configuration information file. This data identifies actions to be accomplished and information to be used to install one or more device drivers.

Contrary to the limitations of independent claim 1, the combination of Maxwell and Lin fails to teach or suggest all claim limitations. For example, the Examiner refers to the .INF file 305 of Maxwell as allegedly teaching the configuration information file that is set forth in claim 1. Office Action, 2. As set forth in column 4 of Maxwell, an .INF file is a file that provides setup information such as a list of valid logical configurations for a device, the names of driver files for the device, etc. The discussion of the .INF file 305 in Maxwell does not deviate from the basic definition.

More specifically, there is no teaching or suggestion in Maxwell regarding data (of the .INF file 305) that *identifies actions* to be used to install one or more device drivers. Instead, Maxwell discloses an add-device tool that performs a process that is depicted in Fig. 6. Pursuant to this process 600, the add-device tool reads information from the .INF file 305 and proceeds with the installation of a device driver accordingly. However, there is no disclosure in Maxwell that teaches or suggests any sort of data from the .INF file 305 that identifies actions to be accomplished in the installation of the device drivers. Rather, the add-device tool performs these actions without receiving identification of what to do next from the .INF file 305.

As set forth in the previous reply, Lin likewise fails to teach or suggest a configuration information file that includes data that identifies actions to be used to install one or more device drivers. Thus, for at least the reason that the combination of Lin and Maxwell fails to teach or suggest all claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been set forth for independent claim 1.

Claims 2-26, 48 and 49 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons that are set forth above, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections of claims 1-26, 48 and 49 is requested.

§ 103 Rejections of Claims 27-29 and 50:

As amended, the computer system of independent claim 27 includes an executable file that initiates a user interface that contains selectable buttons. Each of the selectable buttons is associated with a different device driver that may be installed on the computer system. The selection of the selectable buttons causes execution of additional instructions that install device drivers based on the data stored in the configuration information file.

Contrary to the limitations of amended independent claim 27, Maxwell discloses a graphical user interface (GUI) 307 that is associated with the add-device tool. As depicted in Fig. 4 and described in column 6 of Maxwell, the GUI 307 permits the selection of the .INF file for the particular device being installed, the source path, an answer file path, etc. However, as can be seen best from the depiction of the GUI 307 in Fig. 4, the GUI 307 does not establish a user interface that contains one or more selectable buttons, where each of the selectable buttons is associated with a different device driver. Lin fails to teach or suggest the missing claim limitations. Thus, for at least the reason that the combination of Maxwell and Lin fails to teach or suggest all limitations of amended independent claim 27, withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of this claim is requested.

Claims 28, 29 and 50 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons that are set forth above, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections of claims 27-29 and 50 is requested.

§ 103 Rejections of Claims 30-47

The removable media storage device of independent claim 30 includes an installation module that reads data from a configuration information file. This data identifies actions to be accomplished and information to be used to install device drivers.

Contrary to the limitations of independent claim 30, the add-device tool of Maxwell fails to read data from the .INF file 305, where this data identifies actions to be accomplished to be used to install the device drivers. See discussion of this point above in connection with independent claim 1. In particular, the .INF file 305 of Maxwell does not contain information that identifies actions to be accomplished to be used to install device drivers. Thus, Maxwell fails to teach or suggest the installation of module of claim 30. Lin does not teach or suggest the missing claim limitations. Therefore, for at least the reason that the combination of Maxwell and Lin fails to teach or suggest all limitations of independent claim 30, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established for this claim.

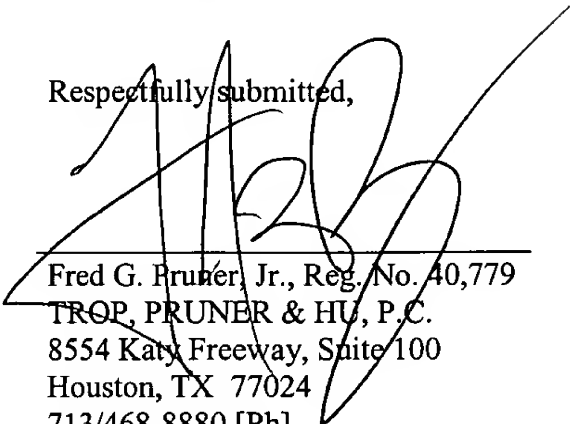
Claims 31-47 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections of claims 30-47 is requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MCE.0110US).

Respectfully submitted,

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